

**We claim:**

1. A method of preventing, inhibiting or reducing fetal loss comprising administering an effective amount of an OX-2 protein or fragment thereof, or a nucleic acid molecule encoding an OX-2 protein or fragment thereof to an animal in need thereof.

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the OX-2 protein is a human OX-2 protein or a fragment thereof.

3. A method according to claim 1 wherein the OX-2 protein is a soluble fusion protein.

4. A method according to claim 3 wherein the soluble fusion protein comprises an OX-2 protein or fragment thereof linked to an immunoglobulin Fc region.

5. A method according to claim 4 wherein the OX-2 fragment comprises an extracellular domain of an OX-2 protein.

6. A method of inducing fetal loss comprising administering an effective amount of an agent that inhibits an OX-2 protein to an animal in need thereof.

7. A method according to claim 6 wherein the agent is a molecule that binds the OX-2 protein.

8. A method according to claim 7 wherein the molecule is an antibody.

9. A method according to claim 6 wherein the agent is an antisense oligonucleotide that is complimentary to a nucleic acid sequence from an OX-2 gene.
- 5 10. A pharmaceutical composition for use in preventing, inhibiting or reducing fetal loss comprising an OX-2 protein in admixture suitable diluent or carrier.
- 10 11. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10 wherein the OX-2 protein is a soluble fusion protein.
12. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10 wherein the OX-2 protein is a human OX-2 protein or a fragment thereof.
- 15 13. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11 wherein the soluble fusion protein comprises an OX-2 protein or fragment thereof linked to an immunoglobulin Fc region.
- 20 14. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 wherein the OX-2 fragment comprises an extracellular domain of an OX-2 protein.
- 25 15. A pharmaceutical composition for use in inducing immune suppression comprising an effective amount of an agent that inhibits OX-2 in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.
- 30 16. A composition according to claim 15 wherein the agent is a molecule that binds the OX-2 protein.
17. A composition according to claim 16 wherein the molecule is an antibody.

18. A composition according to claim 14 wherein the agent is an antisense oligonucleotide that is complimentary to a nucleic acid sequence from an OX-2 gene.

18. A composition according to claim 14 wherein the agent is an antisense oligonucleotide that is complimentary to a nucleic acid sequence from an OX-2 gene.